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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Rickey *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/263,098

Filed: March 5, 1999

For: Preparation of Biodegradable,  
Biocompatible Microparticles  
Containing a Biologically Active  
Agent

Art Unit: 1615

Examiner: C. Azpuru

Atty. Docket: 00166.0063.US04



**Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 1, 2000 (PTO Prosecution File Wrapper Paper No. 6), Applicants submit the following Remarks.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 08-3038.

***Remarks***

Claims 1-29 are pending in the application, with Claims 1, 2, and 12 being the independent claims. Based on the following Remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and they be withdrawn.